

PRICE ONE CENT.

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1894.

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NIGHT EDITION

NO GLOVES FOR CROKER.

He Tells "The Evening World" All About Those Fight Stories.

NEVER FOUGHT IN ANY RING.

Had Trouble Now and Then, but Was Never a Prize-Ring Pugilist.

HIS FIRST FULL EXPLANATION.

For Years These Stories Had Been Going Round and This Is His First Denial.

"The Evening World" cartoon of this morning, showing Mr. Croker in the attitude of a prize-fighter, and the text detailing some of the early experiences which have always been credited to him, were more than the great chief has been used to hear.

Again and again these charges, or rather the accredited records, have been published, once even in book form, and from all Mr. Croker simply turned away. Now, however, he wants his side of the story told and here it is.

Mr. Croker was seen this afternoon at his office and denied in toto the statements told so often of his personal encounters during his career as a young man and before he became prominent as a politician.

Mr. Croker received the reporter affably. There was nothing of anger in his manner as he talked. He was more like a man who had been deeply and truly hurt by the circulation of stories which tended to injure his reputation as a gentleman.

"Now, let me take an 'Evening World,' he said, 'and point out the things I wish to deny.'

"It says here that as a pupil of the East Twenty-seventh street public school I first developed my fistic prowess.

"That is not so. I never had a quarrel with anybody while I went to school. I never looked for one.

"Then it says I fought Reddy Haskins in a cellar. That is untrue. I don't know 'Reddy' Haskins; never heard of him before in my life.

"I am credited next with having beat Pat Kelly in a third avenue room. I deny that. Pat Kelly and I were intimate friends from boyhood up, and I never had a hard word with him during our acquaintance.

"As to having made arrangements to fight O'Connell, that is all wrong, too. I never had a word of trouble with O'Connell, he alone among all the fighters I ever knew.

"The statement that I knocked out Matt Green is not true. Green was a young man I knew long ago, and I never had a row with him.

Mr. Croker here sighed audibly and continued in the same plaintive voice: "I never had a row with anybody either. We never had a harsh word pass between us in our lives."

Then Mr. Croker's finger travelled down the column until it rested on the paragraph telling of his engaging in a rough-and-tumble fight in Jim Cusick's dog-pit.

"As to that, I never saw Cusick in a dog-pit, and never had any trouble there. Pat Kelly's son can tell you that. Pat himself is dead; old Pat, I mean. But you can go to my words and get a verification of my words.

"Now, I want to say about the Dickie Lynch fight that when I was a boy about twenty years old, thirty years ago that was, I had a little row with a young man named Lynch at a festival. Lynch was only a boy too. It was a boy's quarrel, and never came to anything.

"That is all I want to say now, except that these stories were started by my political enemies, and they have kept them alive ever since.

"I was never in a prize-ring in my life," and Croker's voice took on a tone of sincerity which was quite convincing.

"I will be willing to let old row, if the occasion requires. Yes, I would swear to it if necessary.

"That is all and I will be greatly obliged if you will print this just as I have given it to you."

Mr. Croker then excused himself and retired to his private office, where his partner, Peter F. Meyer, was waiting somewhat impatiently for him to have come with his interview.

made a formal denial of their authenticity. Mr. Otto Kempner was seen this afternoon in the Lexow Committee room where he was listening to the testimony of Inspector Williams. When told of Mr. Croker's denial of the charge that he was a fighter of ability, Mr. Kempner smiled and said:

"The statements concerning Mr. Croker's pugilistic career as set forth in my book are substantially correct. I gathered the data from what I considered reliable sources. They have never been refuted."

CROKER CHALLENGES FOES.

Invites Enemies to Face Him Before Tammany Committee.

In an interview this morning Mr. Croker said:

"I invite all my enemies, if I have any, inside and outside of Tammany Hall, to meet me before the Committee and substantiate if they can any charges they want to make against me. Let them come out like men and say what they have to say against me and not attack me behind my back or over detestable names. I invite them all to come forward. There is no truth whatever in the stories of factional fights in the organization, in which my friends are arrayed against another faction. I know of no quarrels in the organization."

The report that notice had been sent last night for a meeting of the Tammany Executive Committee next Saturday afternoon is not admitted. Four district leaders told an "Evening World" reporter today that they had not received any such notification. It was said, however, that the meeting will probably take place, and that it will be followed in a few days by meetings of the Committee.

Mr. Croker's denial of the charges that he was a prize-fighter, and the text detailing some of the early experiences which have always been credited to him, were more than the great chief has been used to hear.

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The record to which Mr. Croker referred as above was compiled from the grants of the Tammany leader written by Otto Kempner.

Advanced sheets of Mr. Kempner's story were printed in the "Sunday World" several months ago, in which these incidents were fully set forth. They have for years been accredited by the public in this city. This is, however, the first time that Mr. Croker has

POLICE TRIBULATIONS OF A DAY.

(From Sketches Made by "Evening World" Artists in Various Court-Rooms.)

EX-WARD MAN SHALVEY.

Police Inspector Alexander S. Williams on the Witness Stand. Sketched from life by an "Evening World" artist this afternoon, and reproduced by "The Evening World's" Photo-Engraving Department in forty-five minutes.

REV. LYMAN ABBOTT.



HAS A NEW BONDSMAN

Retired Merchant Hoppe Qualifies for Schmittberger.

The Captain Reports for Duty, Then Takes a Vacation.

Prosecutor Unger Says Breslin Is Still Liable for the \$7,500.

Police Captain Max Schmittberger appeared at the District-Attorney's office this morning with George Hoppe, a retired merchant, of 20 West One Hundred and Twenty-fourth street, who offered to become surety for the Captain in place of James H. Breslin. Mr. Breslin notified the District-Attorney Monday that he wished to withdraw as bondsman for Schmittberger, whose surety was for \$7,500. Mr. Koster, of Koster & Hall, having qualified in the remaining \$7,500.

Lawyer Howe, who accompanied Schmittberger and Hoppe, said positively that Capt. Schmittberger will not be tried.

This is the first official announcement of that fact that has been made. When questioned concerning Mr. Breslin's withdrawal from his bond, Schmittberger exclaimed:

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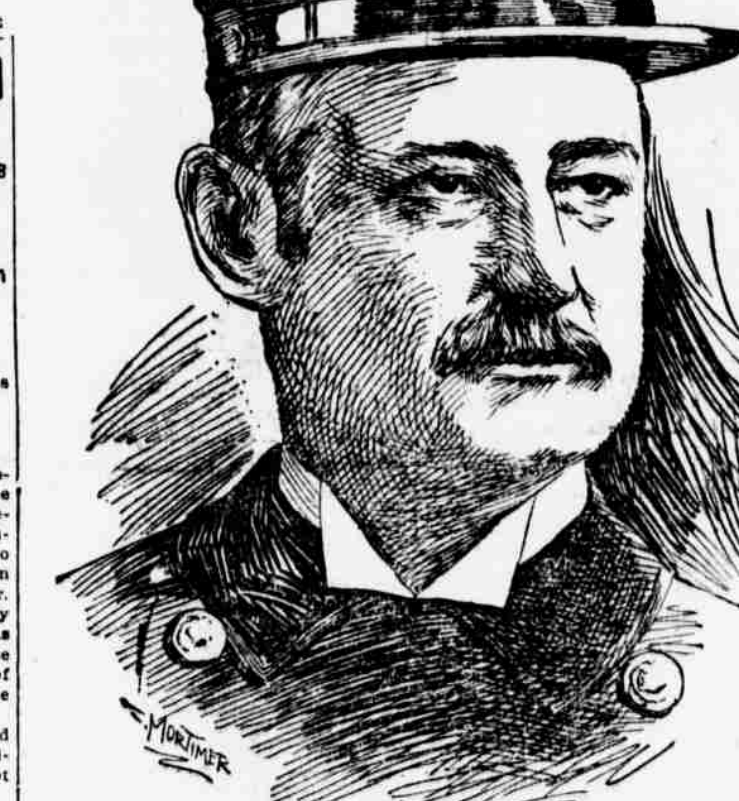
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EX-POLICE CAPTAIN JOHN T. STEPHENSON.

CLANCY NO BRIBE GIVER.

At Least So Says His Bartender of Twenty-Five Years' Service.

Ex-Alderman William Clancy has not been a member of the Board since 1892. His liquor store is at 30 Delancey street. He has been President of the Liquor Dealers' Association of his district, a delegate to the State Liquor Dealers' Convention, and Sergeant-at-Arms of that body. He left his store this morning to go to the Dock Road, City Hall and other places, and was not expected back before night. His bartender, speaking for him, said:

"Shalvey's story, so far as it concerns the ex-Alderman is false. When men of that fellow's stamp assail the character of reputable business men, it is time to call a halt. I have been in this store for twenty-five years, and during that time I can swear the Alderman never did a dishonest or illegal act."

"To my certain knowledge he has never handled a dollar for bribery. I can say, further, that during all the years here, Shalvey was only in the store twice, once when there was a burglary, and the second time when he came with friends."

It is understood that the Captain has ten days left from his vacation of last Summer. He was at the station-house, but a very short time.

Before his arrival at the District-Attorney's office, Assistant District-Attorney Unger said he wished to correct the impression which prevailed that Breslin, by simply notifying the District-Attorney that he wanted to get off of Capt. Max Schmittberger's bail bond, was no longer responsible for the Captain's appearance.

"Mr. Breslin," said he, "is still considered by this office as Schmittberger's bondsman, and a very good one, too. To get rid of the responsibility he must surrender Capt. Schmittberger himself. He is his jailer, and is empowered by law to either arrest the Captain himself or deputize any suitable person to perform that little duty."

"Until Schmittberger is delivered into the hands of the Keeper of the City Prison the District-Attorney will look to Mr. Breslin for the \$7,500, which is the amount he stands good for, should the Captain fail to appear when wanted."

"Even should Schmittberger come here to-day with a new bondsman, it would not alter the fact that the responsibility of his appearance rests with Breslin. He must formally surrender the body of the Captain before he is rid of his share of the responsibility he wishes to shirk."

It was not, Unger said, the District-Attorney's duty to take Schmittberger into custody even though the Captain did not appear with a new bondsman.

After Mr. Hoppe and Mr. John Koster, of Koster & Hall, had signed the new bond in Mr. Unger's office, the parties all went before Assistant District-Attorney Davis, who was Acting District-Attorney in Col. Fellows's absence downtown.

There was a good deal of delay before the bond was approved and set away. They waited in Part 1 of the Court of General Sessions for nearly an hour.

Judge Martine said that Mr. Hoppe was perfectly satisfactory to him, as he had known him personally for years. Then, after some further delay, the bond was signed at 12:50 o'clock, and Capt. Schmittberger and his friends went to their homes.

Police Commissioner Martin's letter, after the bond was signed, was to the effect that Schmittberger had been released from the custody of the City House, to withdraw from the Captain's bond.

Amuse "PROBATIONARY" The New Virginia Cigarette Co.

BANK THIEF, MAYBE!

Ork Edward R. Carter Arrested Late This Afternoon.

Was Transfer Clerk at the National Bank of Commerce.

His Family in Brooklyn Knew Nothing of His Delays.

Detective-Serg. Doran, of the Central Office, arraigned in the Tombs Court this afternoon Edward R. Carter, of 204 Monroe street, Brooklyn. The prisoner was arraigned as a suspicious character, and was remanded to Police Headquarters.

Carter is said to be connected with a bank in this city, and his arrest is believed to be the result of a heavy delinquency.

He is forty-four years old, and was fashionably dressed. At the residence of Mr. Carter, 204 Monroe street, Brooklyn, the family had heard nothing of his arrest. They said he was transfer clerk at the National Bank of Commerce, Cedar and Nassau streets, New York. For the past week he had been working late at night at the bankbooks, and said that an examination was being made.

Whether this was an examination that was being made by the National Bank of Commerce, or the bank officials was not known at the house.

The family were surprised to learn Carter had been arrested, and were very much agitated. Carter's home is in a modest-looking two-story and basement brick house, which rents for about \$60 a month. Carter is a married man.

Trinity Chimes Will Ring This Year. Trinity chimes in all likelihood, will ring out the old and ring in the new year next Monday night. A year ago, on the first time in a long time, the bells were silent, because of the fire, noise and rowdiness on the streets downtown. In this year, the bells will ring this year. Sup. Byrne has given an assurance of proper police protection from 11:30 to 12:30 Monday night the chimes will be in tune.

For racing, entries and other sporting news see pages 2 and 3.

NIGHT EDITION

WILLIAMS FACES GOFF.

He Says Schmittberger Lied When He Accused Him of Accepting Bribes.

NO INTEREST IN HOLLYWOOD.

Was Worth Nearly \$20,000 When Appointed---Shalvey's Confession.

Inspector Alexander S. Williams was called to testify before the Lexow Committee at the afternoon session. He began by saying, in answer to questions that when he was appointed

to the force he was worth between \$15,000 and \$20,000, most of which he brought to this country from China, where he had been in business. He owned some lots in Brooklyn, but disposed of them the year he was appointed.

His money, he says, was all in greenbacks, and he kept them in the safe of a friend named Terry, who is now dead.

He denied that he had been engaged in any outside business since going on the force. He maintained stoutly that he had never been interested in the famous Hollywood brand of whiskey.

When asked if he had any statements to make regarding testimony incriminating him, given by previous witnesses, the Inspector said he wished to deny the accusation of one Perkins, who swore some time ago that he had given Williams \$500 as a bribe in connection with street-cleaning affairs. He declared Perkins was a perjurer.

Mr. Goff rebuked the Inspector for his levity in making side remarks, and Williams answered him tartly.

He declared Capt. Schmittberger lied when he said he paid blackmail money to him. He said he supposed Schmittberger so testified to save himself from State prison.

After repeating his assertion that Schmittberger had sworn falsely, the Inspector was excused for the day, and recess was taken until 10:30 tomorrow morning.

After Inspector Williams had been sworn he said that he had been appointed to the force on Aug. 2, 1895, and that he had been a carpenter previous to that had been a carpenter. He was twenty-four years old at the time.

He had once had charge of a dock yard at Shanghai, China, also at Hong Kong.

Q. Were you poor or well off in this world's goods when you were appointed? A. I was fairly well off. I had about \$15,000 or \$20,000.

Q. Of what did it consist? A. I owned a house that I lived in in Leonard street, Brooklyn. I also had six or eight building lots in Jackson street.

Q. Indeed? What was the size of these lots, Inspector? A. I think they were 20,000 feet. I have never realized on them.

Q. Had you any other real estate? A. No, sir. None at all in America. I sold all my Brooklyn property the year I was appointed to the force.

Q. How much did you get for it? A. About \$2,000, I think.

Q. Of what did the remainder of the \$20,000 consist? A. It was in cash. I had it in a safe belonging to a friend.

Q. Was it in gold? A. Yes, sir. I don't know how long it had been there.

Q. How much had you then? A. I can't remember.

Q. Did you estimate it? A. It is thirty odd years ago, and I cannot remember. I think it was between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

Q. Where did you get the money? A. I brought it from China with me—bits of exchange on London.

Q. What house? A. I can't remember. They were London bills of exchange for between \$10,000 and \$20,000.

Q. When did you have these bills of exchange? A. Two or three years after I went into the Department.

Q. Did you sell them for gold? A. No, I got greenbacks. I put them in the safe of my friend.

Q. Who was the friend? A. He's dead. (See readily.)

Q. But what was his name? A. Terry.

Q. Didn't you know that banking was the best way to keep money? A. Well, there were peculiar times.

Q. He is a thief? A. No, sir.

Q. Well, he has that reputation? A. Not at all.

Q. Was the bill of exchange on a gold basis?

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